

Remarks

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the following remarks. For the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention is allowable over the cited references.

The Office Action dated August 9, 2005, indicated that claims 1-10 and 14-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Wagner (U.S. Patent No. 5,798,529) and claims 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Wagner in view of Tatebayashi *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,514,957).

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 2 to further characterize the claimed invention in connection with identifying the suspected defect. These amendments, as well as those to the Specification, merely characterize U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/586,518 (now allowed), which was incorporated into the instant application. Thus, the amendments do not introduce new matter and the claims are believed to be patentable over the cited references for the reasons set forth below.

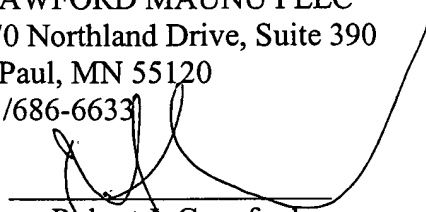
Applicant respectfully traverses each of the prior art rejections (Sections 102(b) and 103(a)) because the Office Action fails to present a reference or combination of references that corresponds to the claimed invention. More specifically, the Office Action fails to identify where the '529 reference teaches removing substrate from a selected portion of the die to expose a suspected defect. Neither of the cited references mentions a "defect" and both fail to teach using a state-changing operation of suspect circuitry, having a suspected defect, to cause a failure due to the suspect circuitry, as now claimed. Without a presentation of correspondence to each of the claimed limitations, the prior art rejections cannot be maintained. Applicant accordingly requests that the rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the above discussion, Applicant believes that the rejections have been overcome and the application is in condition for allowance. A favorable response is requested. Should there be any remaining issues that could be readily addressed over the telephone, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (651) 686-6633.

Respectfully submitted,

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